

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 7-9, 14 and 15 as follows:

LISTING OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Twice Amended) A lid configured to be mounted on a food container having a rim bounding an opening of the food container, the lid comprising:

a) a top cover wall having a generally planar configuration, the top cover wall having an one opening therethrough and an outer periphery;

5 b) a one-piece eating utensil located in the opening of the top cover wall, the one-piece utensil having a food engaging portion of substantially uniform thickness and an integral handle portion extending therefrom, the handle portion being configured to be gripped by a hand of a user, the one-piece eating utensil being removably connected to the top cover wall solely by a plurality of discrete, spaced
10 apart, frangible connecting elements, a length of the one-piece eating utensil from an end of the food engaging portion to an end of the handle portion being less than a distance between opposite sides of the periphery of the top cover wall; and,

15 c) a side wall extending downwardly from the periphery of the top cover wall and configured to engage the rim portion of the food container, the side wall including first and second wall portions wherein the second wall portion of one lid is configured to accept therein the first wall portion of another lid so as to enable a plurality of lids to be stacked in nested fashion.

2. (Previously Amended) The lid of claim 1 wherein:

a) the first wall portion extends from the periphery of the top cover wall;

5 b) the second wall portion has a lateral dimension measured between opposite sides thereof greater than a corresponding dimension of the first wall portion; and,

c) a step portion connecting the first and second wall portions together.

3. (Previously Canceled)

4. (Original) The lid of claim 1 wherein the food engaging portion comprises a spoon.

5. (Original) The lid of claim 1 wherein the food engaging portion comprises a fork.

6. (Original) The lid of claim 1 wherein the food engaging portion comprises a knife.

7. (Currently Amended) The lid of claim 1 further comprising a protective sheet permanently attached to the top cover wall and covering at least the one-piece eating utensil.

8. (Currently Amended) The lid of claim ~~7~~ wherein the 1 further comprising a protective sheet is removably attached to the top cover wall and covering at least the one-piece eating utensil.

9. (Twice Amended) A lid configured to be mounted on a food container having a rim bounding an opening of the food container, the lid comprising:

a) a top cover wall having a generally planar configuration, the top cover wall having ~~an~~ one opening therethrough and an outer periphery;

5 b) a side wall extending downwardly from the periphery of the top cover wall and configured to engage the rim portion of the food container, the side wall having: a first wall portion extending from the periphery of the top cover wall with a first lateral dimension measured between opposite sides thereof; a second wall portion having a second lateral dimension measured between opposite sides
10 thereof, the second lateral dimension being greater than the first lateral dimension;

and step portion connecting the first and second wall portions together wherein the second wall portion is configured to accept therein the first wall portion of another lid so as to enable a plurality of lids to be stacked in nested fashion; and,

- 15 c) a one-piece eating utensil located in the opening of the top cover wall, the one-piece eating utensil having an integral handle configured to be gripped by a hand of a user, the one-piece eating utensil being removably connected to the top cover wall solely by a plurality of discrete, spaced apart, frangible connecting elements.

10. (Previously Canceled)

11. (Original) The lid of claim 9 wherein the food engaging portion comprises a spoon.

12. (Original) The lid of claim 9 wherein the food engaging portion comprises a fork.

13. (Original) The lid of claim 9 wherein the food engaging portion comprises a knife.

14. (Currently Amended) The lid of claim 9 further comprising a protective sheet permanently attached to the top cover wall and covering at least the one-piece eating utensil.

15. (Currently Amended) The lid of claim ~~14~~ wherein the 9 further comprising a protective sheet is removably attached to the top cover wall and covering at least the one-piece eating utensil.